(b) This includes replacement cost of US$ 161 million for lost or damaged fishing vessels, US$ 73 million for engines, US$ 86 million for fishing gear and over US$ 200 million on account of damages to fishery sector such as aquaculture, infrastructure, harbour, etc.

(c) The preliminary observation indicates that turbidity in near shore waters specially in the islands has increased, coral reefs impacted, mangrove and coastal forests have suffered heavy damages.

Cases against the Consumer Protection Act

†3874. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases registered under the Consumer Protection Act, 1986 during the last three years;

(b) the number of cases thereof which have been settled;

(c) the steps being taken by Government for the protection of consumers; and

(d) the number of Non-Governmental Organisations, working in the field of consumer protection, failed to utilize the Governmental grants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) and (b) As per the information provided by the National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (NCDRC), the state-wise details of the complaints filed and disposed of in the District Forums, State Commissions and the NCDRC for the last three years, are given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) The important steps taken by the Govt. for the protection of consumers are as under:

(i) The Consumer Protection Act, 1986 has been amended recently in the year 2002 with a view to facilitate quicker disposal of complaints, enhancing the capability of redressal agencies, strengthening them with more powers, streamlining the

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

procedures and widening the scope of the Act so as to make it more functional.

(ii) The Central Government had provided financial assistance of Rs. 61.80 crores to supplement their efforts for strengthening the infrastructural requirements of the consumer forums during the period 1995—99. To further assist the States, Rs. 10.20 crores have been released during 2004-05.

(iii) A scheme for "computerization and computer networking of consumer forums in the country" amounting to Rs. 48.64 crores has been launched through National Informatics Centre (NIC) as a turn key project in three phases in three years from 2004-05. This scheme aims to provide I.T. solutions in order to achieve e-governance, transparency and efficiency.

(iv) In order to provide assistance to consumers, on 15th March, 2005, two important schemes were launched, *viz.*, the toll-free National Consumer Helpline No. 1600-11-4000 in collaboration with Delhi University and an internet web-site www.core.nic.in in coordination with the Consumer Coordination Council for e-counselling to consumers.

(v) To generate awareness amongst consumers about their rights and responsibilities in order to make them vigilant consumers, concerted multimedia publicity campaign is undertaken by the Ministry.

(d) No case of misutilisation of funds has come to light during the last three years.

Statement

The total number of cases filed, disposed of in the National Commission, State Commissions and the District forums, for the last three years

NATIONAL COMMISSION:

	2002		2003		2004	
	Filed	**Disposed****	**Filed**	**Disposed****	**Filed**	**Disposed****
National Commission	3971	3097	4625	4074	4046	4171

STATE COMMISSIONS :

States/UTs	2002		2003		2004	
	Filed*	Disposed*/**	Filed*	Disposed*/**	Filed*	Disposed*/**
Andhra Pradesh	1121	645	1337	1563	1741	452
A & N Islands	13	8	7	12		
Arunachal Pradesh	6	1	3	3	1	0
Assam	717	39	813	40		
Bihar	595	202	867	507		
Chandigarh	513	331	876	702	520	581
Chattisgarh			1442	463	807	1054
D & N Haveli/ Daman & Diu	0	1	1	4	2	2
Delhi	1785	1741	1775	2131		
Goa	145	51	76	98	84	132
Gujarat	2504	1530	1910	2419		
Haryana	3325	1493	3079	1479	3370	47
Himachal Pradesh	1210	810	1409	763	1118	1037
Jammu & Kashmir	283	284	238	253		
Jharkhand	580	505	658	666	451	197
Karnataka	1244	1198	1711	1267	1973	944
Kerala	967	545	1083	562		
Lakshadweep	0	0	2	0	1	0
Madhya Pradesh	2246	2467	2353	2193	2423	2507
Maharashtra	2332	1640	2420	1520	2763	1678
Manipur						
Meghalaya	15	6	14	5		
Mizoram	13	26	8	0		0
Nagaland	2	1	4	1	2	4
Orissa	1122	854	1772	742	1157	538

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Pondicherry	28	28	36	29	16	37
Punjab	2413	1823	1886	1129	1696	985
Rajasthan	1715	2500	2293	2745		
Sikkim	2	1	3	1		3
Tamil Nadu	1206	633	930	660		
Tripura	63	96	65	84		
Uttar Pradesh	2820	311	3774	128		1311
Uttaranchal	2401	520	683	910	648	754
West Bengal	895	701	795	1112		
TOTAL:	**32281**	**20991**	**34323**	**24191**	**18773**	**12263**

DISTRICT FORUMS :

States/UTs	**2002**		**2003**		**2004**	
	Filed*	**Disposed*/****	**Filed***	**Disposed*/****	**Filed***	**Disposed*/****
Andhra Pradesh	7303	5980	7599	4354	7344	2942
A & N Islands	23	22	30	23		
Arunachal Pradesh	12	11	13	9	17	11
Assam	2064	1380	2016	1224		
Bihar			4004	3822		
Chandigarh	2663	1067	2378	1249	1805	2410
Chattisgarh	2374	1460	1584	1261	2275	1608
D & N Haveli/Daman & Diu	4	0	4	0	0	0
Delhi	9676	9564	10076	9317		
Goa	326	201	264	268	204	152
Gujarat	7311	7555	7472	6782		
Haryana	11721	12157	12031	14454	9787	2641
Himachal Pradesh	4502	5306	3497	4633	2435	2781
Jammu & Kashmir	1812	707	976	631		

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Jharkhand	1471	2233	2965	3225	2079	2456
Karnataka	4727	4769	6337	6626	6067	3185
Kerala	6275	4832	6421	3721		
Lakshadweep	4	1	6	7	0	0
Madhya Pradesh	8291	7593	9324	9533	7640	8476
Maharashtra	26546	22147	11947	13400	9628	12175
Manipur						
Meghalaya	27	36	18	33		
Mizoram	150	116	49	84		0
Nagaland	27	36	18	33		
Orissa	3031	4259	4403	4658		
Pondicherry	103	92	89	0	114	205
Punjab	9066	9308	10669	9831	9309	8973
Rajasthan	11262	12028	13348	14507		
Sikkim	12	13	6	10		
Tamil Nadu	3858	4022	4567	4480		
Tripura						
Uttar Pradesh	24608	6466	24799	6431		
Uttaranchal	2189	2393	1729	1881	952	1006
West Bengal	3860	4243	4193	4400		
TOTAL:	165298	129997	152832	130887	59656	49021

Note: * Columns are left blank, where no information is received.

** Includes cases filed during previous years.

Calamity assistance to Kerala

3875. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Kerala Government sought the natural calamity and drought